

50X1-HUM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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2. The meeting was called by Paul Strassenberger to consider the shortages of foundry pig iron, coal and nonferrous metals caused by the failure of Poland and the USSR to deliver these new materials.
3. The chief speaker was Gerhard Ziller who stated that he is obliged to cancel contracts to the value of 150,000,000 rubles for exports to Poland. These contracts could not be honored because of Poland's failure to deliver 55,000 tons of foundry pig iron. The speaker added that apart from this, deliveries to all the people's democracies could not be made in the quantities originally expected, because a serious shortage of raw materials, especially of nonferrous metals, was to be anticipated.
4. Gerhard Ziller emphasized that relations with Poland had become strained, since the Poles had failed to agree to provide the imports which were urgently needed by the DDR. The speaker anticipated that, with the intervention of Wilhelm Pieck through the CMEA, the situation would change.

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